

Woodbury City Update

October 2020 • Volume 21, No. 9



First place (Events):
"Red Rock Teacher Parade"
By Stephanie Lundell

Judges select winners of 22nd photo contest

The judging is complete and 16 photos earned recognition in the 22nd annual Focus on Woodbury photo contest.

First place winners are Susan Jamison in the people category; Tom Hawkinson, nature; Sigrid Dabelstein, pets; Stephanie Lundell, events; and Brian Myer, landmarks. Woodbury Magazine also invited its readers to cast votes online for their favorite images; Nadine Schultz's photo received the most votes and earned the "Readers' Choice" award.

Second place winners are Mackenzie Harding (people), Kent Nye (nature), Samu Miller (pets), Bethany Nordman (events) and Heidi Hopps (landmarks). Taking third place honors are Mackenzie Harding (people), Andy O'Meara (nature), Heidi Hopps (pets), Donna Lloyd (events) and Laila Masoud (landmarks).

This year's contest, sponsored by Woodbury Magazine, drew 223 entries. Judges were Woodbury Magazine staffers Hailey Almsted, editor; Anthony Bettin, digital editor; Sarah Dovolos, senior managing art director; Emily Handy, art director; and Angela Johnson, managing editor.

The winners will be recognized at the Oct. 14 City Council meeting.

See winning photos on page 5

Voters will elect two City Council members Nov. 3

Two positions on the Woodbury City Council will be filled Tuesday, Nov. 3, when voters cast ballots in the state general election. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the city's 16 precincts (see map, page 3).

Both seats are for four-year terms that begin in January. Eight persons have filed for City Council. They are (in alphabetical order): Andrea Date, Susan Klosterman Finke, Amanda Hemmingsen Jaeger, Linda Ji, Deborah A. Larson, Bob Lawrence IV, Temmy Olasimbo and Kim Wilson. They are seeking to fill the Council positions currently held by Andrea Date and Amy Scoggins. Scoggins is not seeking re-election.

In addition to city positions, the November ballot includes the presidential race; U.S. representative for District 4; state senator for District 53; state representative for Districts 53A and 53B; Washington County commissioner for District 5; and soil and water supervisor for District 5.

Polling sites

Polling sites for the general election are the same as those used in the August primary (see list of sites, page 3). If have questions about your precinct and/or polling site, use the Secretary of State's online polling place finder at pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us or call City Hall at 651-714-3500.

Absentee voting

Absentee voting for the general election began Sept. 18 and continues through Monday, Nov. 2. Voters can absentee vote by mail or in-person.

An absentee ballot application can be completed online at the Minnesota Secretary of State website (mnvotes.org). Once the absentee ballot application is completed, a ballot will be mailed to the eligible voter to complete and return via mail. Call 651-430-6175 or visit the Washington County website (www.co.washington.mn.us) for more information.

Washington County voters who wish to vote absentee in-person may do so at the following locations:

- Central Park/R.H. Stafford Library (lower level), 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury
- Cottage Grove Service Center, 13000 Ravine Parkway, Cottage Grove
- Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue, Oakdale
- Headwaters Service Center, 19955 Forest Road North, Forest Lake
- Washington County Government Center, 14949 62nd Street North, Stillwater

In-person absentee voting hours are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additional hours will be offered on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., and Monday, Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Absentee voters are encouraged to vote at the beginning of the period (Sept. 18 to Nov. 2) for absentee voting. Absentee voters waiting to vote the last week of the absentee voting period may experience long lines and the potential for a long wait.

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Council Perspective

By Mayor Anne Burt

Kindeva project will be catalyst for future commercial development

Woodbury was recently recognized by Money magazine as the ninth-best place to live in America and the best place to live in Minnesota. The magazine partially attributed the strong ranking to Woodbury's strong economy and access to employment opportunities that befit a much larger city. However, Money isn't the only group that has acknowledged Woodbury as a great place to live and do business; I want to tell you about the Kindeva project, which will serve as the catalyst for future development in the northeast part of our city.

Kindeva Drug Delivery, formerly 3M Drug Delivery Systems, is a leading global contract development and manufacturing organization that specializes in solving complex drug delivery challenges for its pharmaceutical and biotechnology customers. They have announced their intention to construct their global headquarters in Woodbury's northeast business park area.

The 136,000-square-foot facility will be located at the northeast corner of Settlers Ridge Parkway and Hudson Road and will provide corporate office and administrative spaces, laboratory and testing areas, clean manufacturing and production space, and warehouse/building support areas. While Kindeva has just short of 1,000 employees worldwide, their Woodbury headquarters space will likely open with about 150 employees and room to grow.

This project is consistent with the development vision for the northeast area that is outlined in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, our blueprint for future development. It also aligns with our economic development strategic plan, which prioritizes job growth in the community. Located adjacent to I-94 near Manning Avenue, land uses in the northeast area will likely include businesses that benefit from proximity and access to a major freeway distribution corridor, representing a new development pattern for the city, with a focus on



light industrial, manufacturing and distribution uses. With more than 400 acres of contiguous land guided for places to work, the northeast area offers a unique opportunity to diversify the city's job and tax base.

As the first commercial development in this part of the community, the Kindeva project will establish the northeast area as a first-class business park with access to the freeway, employees and commerce partners, which will forge synergistic business relationships.

Construction is expected to begin this fall with the goal of opening for business in July 2021. While full development of the northeast area is expected to take many years due to the sheer size of the area, the Kindeva project is an important first step toward implementing the economic development vision for this area.

Long-term planning

I'm proud to represent one of the "Best Places to Live" in America. While we should be honored by the national recognition, it's important to note that Woodbury's success did not happen overnight. It took years of planning by city leaders – past and present – and wise, long-term decision-making to guide Woodbury into an attractive place to live, work and do business.

Our long-standing strategic philosophy of welcoming and planning for our fair share of the region's growth has helped create our reputation as a great place to live, work and

thrive! So as you see new rooftops and soon-to-be built commercial buildings like Kindeva appearing across the city's landscape this year, remember that we enjoy a high quality of life in Woodbury today thanks to the growth we have experienced over the past 30-plus years. This continued, planned residential growth makes us an exciting, dynamic place to do business and attract businesses like Kindeva.

Development map

More development related information is available on the city's online development map at woodburymn.gov/developmentmap.

Additionally, you may opt to receive an InTouch email notification when new projects are added to the development map. To sign up, visit woodburymn.gov/InTouch and select the "New residential and commercial developments" list.

For more information about development in the city, view the online development map or contact the Planning Division at 651-714-3533 or planning@woodburymn.gov.

Applications due Oct. 21 for advisory boards

Wednesday, Oct. 21, is the deadline for submitting an application for appointment to a Woodbury advisory commission. Residents appointed to these groups serve on a volunteer basis. The term is for three years in most instances.

This year, there are 12 openings on the city's advisory boards.

In addition, there are up to two openings on the Parks and Natural Resources Commission and Planning Commission for 11th- and 12th-grade high school students who are Woodbury residents. The term for students is for one year.

In some instances, incumbents are eligible for reappointment. The groups are:

- Audit and Investment Commission
- Economic Development Commission
- Parks and Natural Resources Commission (only student positions available for 2021)
- Planning Commission
- South Washington County Telecommunications Commission

Woodbury residents who are interested in serving with any of these advisory groups may call City Hall, 651-714-3500, to request an application. Applications also are available on the Woodbury website at woodburymn.gov/commissions.

The City Council will interview applicants on Saturday, Nov. 21. New appointees begin their terms in January.

The Woodbury newsletter is published 10 times per year by the City of Woodbury and mailed to all residents and businesses. Send comments to: Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125-3330. Phone: 651-714-3500. Email: jason.egerstrom@woodburymn.gov.

Mayor: Anne Burt. Council Members: Andrea Date, Steve Morris, Jennifer Santini and Amy Scoggins. City Administrator: Clint Gridley. Communications Manager: Jason Egerstrom.

The City of Woodbury is subject to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. In accordance with the act, the Woodbury newsletter is available in other formats. Call Jason Egerstrom, 651-714-3500; TDD: 651-714-3568.

Election...from page 1

For more information, contact Washington County Elections at elections@co.washington.mn.us or 651-430-6175.

Registering to vote

To register to vote, an individual must be 18 years of age or older on the day of the election; a citizen of the United States; and a resident of Minnesota for at least 20 days prior to the election. Pre-registration for the general election ends Oct. 13.

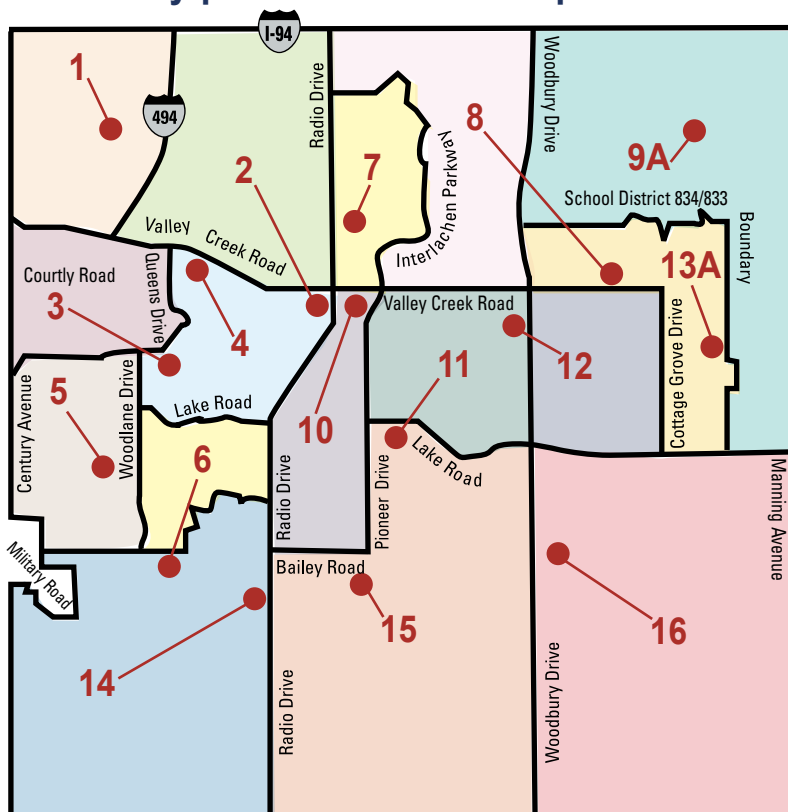
Voters who have not pre-registered or who need to update their registration information may do so at their local polling site on Election Day, as long as they can provide proof of residence.

To learn more about voter registration, visit mnvotes.org.

Election results

Election results will be available via the city's website at woodburymn.gov. In addition, the South Washington County Telecommunications Commission will be airing live election night results on cable TV Channel 18 (Comcast) or Channel 8542 (CenturyLink) after the polls close. You can also watch live coverage at swctc.org.

Woodbury precinct location map



Woodbury/Cottage Grove Boundary

• Red dot indicates the precinct polling location

Woodbury polling sites:

- Precinct 1:**
Woodbury Baptist Church
6695 Upper Afton Road
- Precinct 2:**
Woodbury City Hall
8301 Valley Creek Road
- Precinct 3:**
Woodbury High School
2665 Woodlane Drive
- Precinct 4:**
Woodbury Lutheran Church
7380 Afton Road
- Precinct 5:**
New Life Church
6758 Bailey Road
- Precinct 6:**
Bailey Elementary School
4125 Woodlane Drive
- Precinct 7:**
King of Kings Lutheran Church
1583 Radio Drive
- Precinct 8:**
St. John Lutheran Church
1975 St. John's Drive
- Precinct 9A*:**
Brookview Elementary School
11099 Brookview Road
- Precinct 10:**
Central Park
8595 Central Park Place
- Precinct 11:**
Lake Middle School
3133 Pioneer Drive
- Precinct 12:**
Valley Crossing Elementary School
9900 Park Crossing
- Precinct 13A*:**
Liberty Ridge Elementary School
11395 Eagle View Boulevard
- Precinct 14:**
Five Oaks Community Church
4416 Radio Drive
- Precinct 15:**
East Ridge High School
4200 Pioneer Drive
(south entrance)
- Precinct 16:**
St. Ambrose of Woodbury
4125 Woodbury Drive

*State guidelines require the "A" be included in the precinct name to indicate that the precinct's borders are not formed completely by geographic features (e.g., roadways).

Celebrating Woodbury businesses

Each year, the City of Woodbury partners with the Woodbury Area Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge businesses that made substantial real estate investments or improvements in Woodbury in the past year. The event, tabbed the Woodbury Business Celebration, typically draws about 100 people from the local business community. While this year's event acknowledging 2019 achievements was canceled due to COVID-19, it is important the city recognize these businesses for their investment in our community.

The following businesses received plaques for new commercial construction investment in 2019:

- Premier Bank
- Salute Dental
- Texas Roadhouse
- CityPlace Medical II (Shriner's Hospital and Adefris and Toppin)

- CityPlace Medical III (Midwest ENT)
- Valley Creek Retail (Dunkin Donuts)
- Wooddale Office Flex

The following businesses received plaques as one of the top commercial investments or reinvestments (additions/leasehold improvements) in 2019; each of which had a permit value of more than \$750,000:

- Summit Orthopedics
- Foss Swim School
- Allina Health Woodbury Clinic
- Woodbury Lakes
- Goodwill
- United Noodles
- Kraft Mechanical
- Barnes & Noble

Mayor Anne Burt has been hand-delivering plaques to these businesses



Mayor Anne Burt (right) recognizes Summit Orthopedics' reinvestment in the community by presenting a plaque to chief executive officer Adam Berry.

and personally thanking them for choosing Woodbury as a home for their business.

In addition to the significant real estate achievement listed above, Woodbury is also proud that 49 new businesses chose to open in Woodbury last year, an average of almost one per week.

Going south for the winter?

Residents who head south for the winter months can help prevent plumbing freeze-ups by having the city turn off their water at the curb. While turning your water off at the meter is good, there is still a chance that pipe between the meter and the floor could freeze.

To learn more about shutting off water to a home, contact the Public Works Department at 651-714-3720. The homeowner must call at least two days in advance of needing the water shut off and be present when staff arrives to shut off the water at the curb.

Before you leave

Consider these actions when leaving town for an extended period of time:

- Have a friend or neighbor check your home two to three times a week. Have them change the look every so often to give it a lived-in appearance.
- Have your mail forwarded or have someone pick it up daily.
- Cancel your newspaper.
- Reduce your heat.
- Drain your plumbing system and hot water heater.
- Put recreational vehicle anti-freeze in your plumbing fixture traps and floor drains.
- Have someone clear the driveway and sidewalks of snow and ice.
- Put lights on timers in areas typically lighted at night.



New technologies help

A home temperature sensor will alert you via cell phone if the temperature in your home falls too low. Other products allow you to monitor and adjust your home thermostat remotely. A digital video camera allows you to check on your home visually through a remote internet connection.

City Hall improvements under way

Remodeling of City Hall began the week of Sept. 14 and will continue through at least November, with some improvements taking place into spring 2021.

The purpose of the project is to improve safety and security, and further protect public and staff health by allowing for appropriate physical distancing. The work also will maximize the efficiencies of the current building layout, which will isolate customers and visitors primarily to the lobby area, similar to the configuration at the Public Works and Public Safety Buildings.

Public impact

City Hall will remain open during construction. However, the public is encouraged to continue conducting business with the city remotely as much as possible. City staff will be available via phone or email to help with service requests. Some services are also available online at woodburymn.gov. If you must come in for service, call the department from which you need service in advance and make an appointment.

The Council Chambers will remain open for public meetings, but the public is encouraged to participate virtually instead of coming in person. Learn more on the Meetings and Agendas tab on the homepage at woodburymn.gov.

City Hall meeting rooms will not be available for public use until construction is complete and meetings can be held following the state's social distancing guidelines. However, City Hall will remain a polling place for the Nov. 3 general election (see list on page 3).

Those visiting City Hall during construction should expect to experience some noise, vibrations, dust and debris. Staff is working with Kraus-Anderson, the contractor, to mitigate these impacts to the extent practicable.

Proposed improvements include:

- Construction of a new front desk and customer service counter with glass partitions to physically separate staff from the public.
- Upgrading to hospital-grade (Merv-13) air filters on air handlers.



Safety and security improvements are being made to the City Hall lobby. The building remains open to the public and will remain a polling location for the Nov. 3 general election. Pictured above is a rendering of the new space.

- Implementing new secure card access to the building at all entrances.
- Add flexibility to the public conference rooms to accommodate meetings of varying size and needs.
- Upgrading audio/video capabilities in all conference rooms to allow for better remote and in-person meetings.
- Other improvements to the building to maximize space efficiencies and plan for long-term growth.
- Adjustments to air handlers to increase outdoor air rates.
- Bi-polar ionization systems are being explored as a potential option to install on air handlers for high occupancy/high-use buildings, which can improve air quality in a number of ways, not just for COVID-19.
- Touchless faucets will be installed in city buildings where practical.

City Hall history

The existing City Hall was constructed in 1990 and was renovated in 2007. In 2016, enhancements were made to the Council Chambers and the adjoining conference rooms. At that time, building safety and security upgrades were identified as a need; however, the improvements were delayed and outlined in capital improvement planning for another year.

"Moving forward with the remodeling work now eliminates phasing the project over time, which will reduce overall costs, minimize disruption, and leverage the federal funding," said Engineering Director Chris Hartzell, who is leading the project for the city.

Watch for additional information through the city's InTouch email notification system and social media accounts. Questions about the project should be directed to the Engineering Department at engineering@woodburymn.gov or 651-714-3593.

Focus on Woodbury photo contest winners



First place (Nature): "Prepare for Takeoff"
By Tom Hawkinson



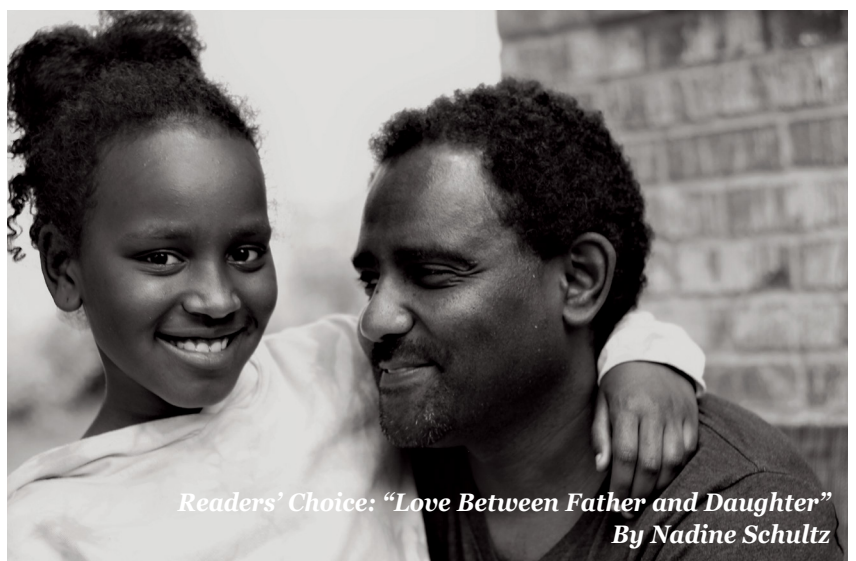
First place (People): "Topsy Turvy Summer"
By Susan Jamison



First place (Landmarks): "Fading Day at Miller Barn, Valley Creek Park"
By Brian Myer



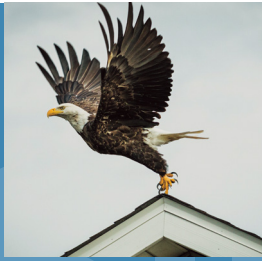
First place (Pets): "Puppy LOVE!"
By Sigrid Dabelstein



Readers' Choice: "Love Between Father and Daughter"
By Nadine Schultz



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elections Nov. 3**
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rules begin Nov. 1**
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Learn about the candidates

Recordings of the recent candidate forums sponsored by the League of Women Voters Woodbury Cottage Grove Area – featuring candidates for a variety of local offices – are available on the South Washington County Telecommunications Commission (SWCTC) website at swctc.org and are being replayed on government access Channel 18 (Comcast) and Channel 8542 (CenturyLink). The Woodbury Area Chamber of Commerce candidate forums – which focus on business topics – also will be available at swctc.org and on the government access channels.

In addition, brief candidate profiles for City Council, and state and county offices are available at swctc.org or on the government access channels.

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Woodbury, MN

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Clear the streets, check the mailboxes! Winter parking rules begin Nov. 1

Woodbury's snow plowing crews are gearing up for the upcoming winter season. Here are a few ways residents can help:

- 1. Remove play equipment from streets and cul-de-sacs** – Woodbury ordinance prohibits placing recreational materials in the streets, and they present a hazard to the plow operators and motorists alike. When covered with snow, play equipment can become frozen in place, concealed from drivers' vision. Even if visible, the items block traffic movement and prevent a thorough plowing job.
- 2. Keep children safe** – Don't allow children to build snow forts and tunnels in the snow banks adjacent to the curb, or to play near the curbs. It can be difficult for the plow operators to see children.
- 3. Keep trash and recycling containers behind the curb** – Trash

and recycling containers placed in the streets block traffic and impact the quality of plowing operations. If trash/recycling pickup day coincides with plowing activities, make sure your trash can and recycling bin are well behind the curb in the driveway so the plow will not hit them.

- 4. Check mailboxes and posts** – Residents are urged to check their mailboxes/posts and make any repairs necessary to ensure the structure can withstand snow coming off the end of the plow. If a mailbox is accidentally struck by a plow truck, the city will repair or replace the mailbox, provided the mailbox featured a standard design that conforms to U.S. postal standard specifications for minimum height and setback. The U.S. postal standard specifications for mailboxes are available on the city's

website at woodburymn.gov.

- 5. Keep snow cleared away from mailboxes** – It is residents' responsibility to keep snow cleared away from mailboxes to improve accessibility for mail delivery.

Winter parking restrictions

Residents also need to be aware that Woodbury's winter parking regulations - banning on-street parking between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. - go into effect once again Nov. 1. The parking restrictions, which are designed to facilitate plowing during the snow season, continue through April 1.

City ordinance also prohibits on-street parking any time 2 or more inches of snow have accumulated, until after the street has been completely plowed. The 2-inch guideline applies to any hour of the day, any time of year.



The winter parking ordinance does not apply to private streets, only to public roadways. Residents who violate the ordinance will be ticketed. Be sure to tell relatives and guests who may visit your home about the winter parking restrictions, so they will not receive a citation either.

Questions about winter parking regulations and mailbox installation standards may be directed to the Public Works Department at 651-714-3720 or publicworks@woodburymn.gov.